

I call on you to hold an official public hearing in my state.

Before the disastrous 2003 decision to weaken media ownership rules (which a federal court has now overturned), you held only one official public hearing. Further, FCC officials met behind closed doors 71 times with major broadcasters – but only five times with public interest groups. And to justify your actions, you used deceptive, industry-sponsored research data.

The will of Big Media had been heeded at the expense of American citizens and democracy itself. This has to end. Before you rewrite the ownership rules, I demand an official public FCC hearing in my state, impartial and verifiable research, and transparent debates.

It is time to put the needs of democracy – a diverse, skeptical, independent and competitive media system – ahead of profit-hungry media giants.

Chairman Powell and the FCC:

I call on you to hold multiple official public hearings in California on the subject of Media consolidation.

Please correct the error you made before the disastrous 2003 decision to weaken media ownership rules (which a federal court has now overturned). At that time, you held only one official public hearing and FCC officials met behind closed doors 71 times with major broadcasters – but only five times with public interest groups. I recently read that to justify your actions, you used skewed industry-sponsored research data.

It is clear that you are allowing Big Media to have a greater voice than the collective voice of the people. This is happening at the expense of journalistic quality, the ability for the American citizens to learn the truth about government action and policy--and the is profoundly affecting democracy itself. I urge you to correct this as soon as possible--it is one of the most important issues facing American democracy today!

Before you rewrite the ownership rules, I demand at least one official public FCC hearing in my state, impartial and verifiable research, and transparent debates.

Democracy requires a diverse, journalistic, questioning, independent and competitive media system – NOT media giants with motives that are not aligned with the will of or the interests of the people. It is time to put the needs of true democracy first!